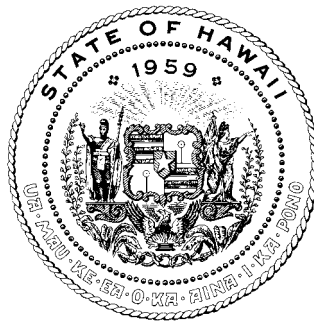


ANNUAL REPORT TO THE TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

REGULAR SESSION OF 2003

RELATING TO THE WILDLIFE REVOLVING FUND



Prepared by

THE STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

In response to Section 183D-10.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes

Honolulu, Hawaii  
November, 2002

**ANNUAL REPORT TO THE TWENTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2003  
WILDLIFE REVOLVING FUND  
2001-2002**

**PURPOSE**

Act 290, Session Laws of Hawaii 1991, amended Section 183D-10.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) by adding a requirement for an annual report to be prepared by the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) on the status of the Wildlife Revolving Fund (WRF) and transmitted to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to each regular session. The report is to include:

1. The source and application of monies deposited into the fund, including a description of the criteria and process used to determine funding priorities;
2. A description of programs and activities supported by the fund;
3. A summary of program highlights and accomplishments; and
4. A description of future program plans, including specific goals and objectives.

**SOURCE OF FUNDS**

Section 183D-10.5 (b), HRS, provides that proceeds from fees for hunting licenses, game bird farmer and commercial hunting preserve licenses and fees, hunting guide licenses, attendance of hunter education training programs, use of public target ranges, fines collected for hunting or wildlife law violations, bail forfeitures, sale of articles required before hunting, and works of art may be deposited into the WRF. For Fiscal Year (FY) 2001-2002, the major source of revenue was hunting license, wildlife stamp sales, game tags and application fees. Sources of funds are detailed on the following page:

## FY2002 REVENUE

Hunting License Sales	\$122,820
Wildlife Conservation Stamps and Artwork	56,760
Game tags and application fees	27,710
Game Bird Farmer and Commercial Hunting Preserve License and Fees	625
Hunter Education Activities	2,744
Hunting Guide License Fees	850
Circuit Court Fines	225
District Court Fines	1,250
Donated Gifts	1,000
Interest	2,734
Fees – copies of documents/reimbursements	<u>80</u>
<b>TOTAL FOR FY 2002 (\$216,797.97)</b>	<b>\$216,798</b>

Revenue for FY 2002 totaled \$216,798, which was a \$62,506 (41%) increase over the previous year. Higher hunting license and wildlife stamp sales and the sale of game tags and application fees accounted for the increase in revenue. The revenue did not meet the Department's authorized budget ceiling for the WRF of \$500,000. However, the Department managed its expenditures, so as not to exceed the amount of cash available in the Fund. Payment of prior years outstanding encumbrances totaled \$31,548, and new expenditures totaled \$110,383. The cash balance at the end of the fiscal year amounted to \$104,253, with outstanding encumbrances of \$59,657. Unencumbered cash available for carryover totaled \$59,657.

### Status of Wildlife Revolving Fund During FY 2002 (S-02-343-C & S-02-344-C)

Beginning Cash Balance of Fund on July 1, 2001:	\$ 29,386
Liquidation of outstanding encumbrances from prior years:	\$ 31,548
Revenues during FY 2002:	\$216,798
Expenditures during FY 2002:	\$110,383
Cash Balance as of June 30, 2002:	\$104,253
 Unpaid encumbrances for FY 2002 as of June 30, 2002:	 \$ 44,596
Unencumbered Cash for carryover as of June 30, 2002:	\$ 59,657

## **FUNDING PRIORITIES**

As the major source of revenue in WRF is hunter license sales, hunting stamps used to validate hunting licenses, and game tags, priority was given to expenditures which benefited this user group. In budgeting for WRF, a policy of allotting approximately 85% of budget for the hunting program has been in place and followed. Approximately 15% of the budget is allocated for nongame and wildlife sanctuary management. As Section 183D-10.5(e), HRS, requires that the State should first use the WRF monies to "maximize the State's participation to secure federal funds under the Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act"; a priority was given to those expenditures which provided the State Match for Pittman-Robertson projects.

Because of the continued limited budget for the Department's Forest Recreation program (LNR 804), of which the game program and WRF are a part, the WRF has become a more critical portion of the overall budget to meet obligations of state match and operating and salary expenses for critical wildlife projects. The allocation of operating funds to the branch offices was done on a lump sum basis, to be used on eligible projects in the most efficient manner as possible. Salary funds were allocated among the branches. The proportional allotment to the branches was based on the respective branch wildlife program size and complexity. This allotment process put the decision on where and how to use WRF monies at the branch-operational level, where they could be used on the most pressing local needs.

## **PROCESS USED**

1. The Fiscal Office and the Division of Forestry and Wildlife of DLNR coordinated to determine the amount of the funds available for allocation to Branch Offices.
2. At the beginning of the fiscal year, a portion of the WRF budget was allocated to each branch office of the Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Honolulu Staff Office for Statewide projects, and the Hunter Education branch of the Division of Conservation and Resource Enforcement of DLNR. Allocation proportions are based on the size and complexity of the wildlife program and ensuring that each branch or office received a portion of the budget. A portion of the funds was allocated for temporary personnel to maintain critical wildlife program functions, that had been cut in earlier budget reductions (i.e. hunting license sales data base management, wildlife technicians).
3. Each branch office was instructed to use their WRF budget for the benefit to the resources and resource users within the criteria of compliance with the purpose of the WRF Act, to provide state-match requirements if needed, and to fall within the percentage distribution for the game and non-game programs.
4. An emphasis was placed on using the WRF for expenditures that provided needed infrastructure and improvements to public hunting areas, maintained or provided new public hunting opportunities, or addressed high priority conservation initiatives.
5. Purchase orders were identified and coded as "WILDLIFE REVOLVING FUND: S-02-343" to facilitate tracking and accountability.

6. Expenditures complied with approved categories of expenditures for the WRF as established by The Board of Land and Natural Resources on August 13, 1993.

## **PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND FUTURE PLANS**

Details of program highlights and accomplishments for FY 2002 and future plans for FY 2003 are provided below for each branch or office.

### **KAUAI SEGMENT**

#### **Game Mammal Surveys**

The Kauai District was unable to utilize Pittman-Robertson Federal Aid to Wildlife Restoration funds for its game mammal survey job during the year, because of federal restrictions on use of the money for that type of work. Some of the project costs this year were borne by the WRF, including helicopter rental for aerial game surveys in Waimea Canyon and the Na Pali Coast. The aerial survey conducted this year, enabled wildlife managers to assess game mammal population levels prior to the 2002 hunting season. Expenditures: \$2,275

#### **Hunting Season Management**

The funds necessary to purchase game tag materials, the printing of game tags and instruction sheets, and the publication of legal notices and announcements declaring changes to hunting seasons and additions to hunting areas were accomplished with monies of the WRF. Office appurtenances required for the collection and accounting of game tag fees from hunters were acquired and instituted during the year. The new Waimea Heights Game Bird Hunting Area was opened, expanding the game bird hunting area available to the public by 3,500 acres. A special goat hunt was administered within the Na Pali Coast State Park that required the publication of legal notices, printing of tags and helicopter access for enforcement and management of the hunt. Ten hunter checking stations were likewise maintained with WRF monies, because of federal aid restrictions on the use of Pittman-Robertson (P-R) funds for game mammal survey work. Expenditures: \$7,853

#### **Vehicle Repairs and Purchase**

The aging fleet of motor vehicles used by the Wildlife Section on Kauai required some major repairs to keep them operational. WRF monies contributed (\$2,472) to meet those costs. In addition, WRF monies were used for the partial purchase of one new pick up truck used by the Kauai Wildlife Technician, providing for the non-federal aid portion of its use, and the state's match for the federal funds used ( \$5,661). Total Expenditures for motor vehicle repair and purchase: \$8,133

#### **Volunteer Program:**

Incentive awards (printed T shirts) were purchased and distributed to hunter volunteers, who participated as hunter checking station attendants during an extreme fire danger period, to allow the hunting season to remain open during the feral goat hunting season, and for those who worked on the game bird rearing-release project during the previous year. Expenditure: \$974

#### Commissions on Hunting License Sales

WRF monies were used to pay vendors their commission on the sale of 2001-2002 Hawaii hunting licenses. Expenditures: \$1,877

Total WRF expenditures of Kauai: \$21,112

#### Future Program Plans:

1. Continued employment of a half-time general laborer to assist on game development, maintenance, and management projects.
2. Provide for the administrative costs, such as legal notices, printing and administration of game tags, announcements of hunting season changes and additions of new hunting areas.
3. Continued rearing and release of game birds in Kekaha Game Management Area if drought conditions require.
4. Incremental development of a public archery/rifle target range at Hanahanapuni.
5. Purchase of a pick up truck (that portion not covered by P-R Federal Aid) to replace a vehicle that is beyond economical repair used in the conduct of both game and non-game programs on Kauai.

### **OAHU SEGMENT**

The Objectives for the WRF program segment on Oahu were to:

1. Maintain and enhance habitat and facilities on Oahu Public Hunting Areas, GMAs, and Wildlife Sanctuaries.
2. Improve game bird and game mammal habitat and hunting opportunities on the Island of Oahu.

#### General Laborer Position

Personnel were hired on a temporary basis to fulfill wildlife management needs and objectives in Honolulu County (Oahu and Kure Atoll). Temporary personnel performed a wide range of non-game management tasks focused on the management of Kure Atoll Wildlife Sanctuary, enabling permanent staff members to devote more time to game management activities. Work included logistical and administrative support while on Oahu, and facilities construction, seabird survey, and habitat enhancement while stationed at Kure Atoll from May through June 2002.

Expenditures: \$2,554

#### Game Bird Enhancement on Oahu.

WRF was used to pay for the capture and transport of gray and black francolins on Molokai by the United States Department of Agriculture Wildlife Services Branch, and shipped via airfreight to Oahu for release in suitable habitat. The intent of the project is to increase the distribution and abundance of game birds on Oahu for the benefit of the bird-hunting public.

Expenditures: \$3,108

Approximately 5,000 feet of six-strand barbed wire fencing was installed at Kuaokala Game Management Area to create three grazing units. The fencing was completed according to a grazing

plan developed for the area by the Natural Resources Conservation Service. The three units, each approximately 90-100 acres in size, will increase the effectiveness of cattle as a habitat management tool through the use of a rotational grazing system.

Expenditures: \$4,700

#### Oahu Hunting License Vendor Reimbursements

WRF monies were used to pay vendors their commission on the sale of 2001-2002 Hawaii hunting licenses. Expenditures: \$3,767

Total WRF Expenditures for Oahu: \$2,554 (Salary), \$11,575 (Operating)

#### Future Program Plans

1. Hire temporary personnel to perform tasks targeted towards the ongoing management of Kure Atoll Wildlife Sanctuary. From May through June 2003, one person will be stationed at Kure Atoll Wildlife Sanctuary to perform work associated with operations and maintenance of facilities on the Atoll, wildlife surveys, control of introduced vegetation and monitoring for the presence of rats. Prior to departure for Kure Atoll, the position will take on a wide variety of logistical and administrative tasks to enable an extended management presence at Kure. This position will allow permanent staff to devote more resources to game management activities.
2. Contract the U.S.D.A Wildlife Services Branch to hold and transport gray and black francolins from Molokai to Oahu for release in public hunting areas.
3. Purchase 75 Ring-necked pheasants for release in the Kuaokala GMA during and after the bird-hunting season, in order to increase the hunter success in the area.
4. Purchase equipment and supplies needed for ongoing operations and maintenance of Oahu wildlife management areas.

### **MAUI SEGMENT**

#### Lease of Cooperative GMA - Lanai

Objective: Provide 30,000 acres of land on Lanai for sport hunting and wildlife management.

Accomplishment: The entire annual lease rental for the Lanai Cooperative Game Management Area was paid via WRF monies. Expenditure: \$32,500.

#### Lease of lands for Hunting Unit "C" - Maui

Objective: To maintain a lease of 1,000 acres or ranch lands lying between portions of the Kula Forest Reserve Hunting Unit "C" for sport hunting and wildlife management.

Accomplishment: The lease rental for the Kaonoulu Ranch Cooperative GMA was paid, in part, with WRF monies, providing for an additional 1,000 acres for sport hunting and wildlife management on Maui. Expenditure: \$600.

#### Contract Services - Data Input/Lanai Hunts

Objective: With the shortage of clerical staff, coupled with high interest and participation in the Lanai Axis deer and Mouflon sheep hunts on Lanai, it became necessary to contract outside support to assure all lottery and non-lottery hunt applications were processed in a timely manner.

Accomplishment: A total of 5,686 hunter applications were received for the two Lanai hunts, all

applicant data was entered and duplicate applications identified and deleted. Lottery drawings were conducted for muzzleloading and general rifle hunts for both the Axis deer and Mouflon sheep hunts, with results compiled and disseminated in a timely manner. Expenditure: \$2,001.

#### Part time/Temporary General Laborer - Lanai

Objective: To assist the sole Lanai Wildlife Technician in the weekly conduct of the nationally recognized Axis deer and Mouflon sheep hunts on Lanai. This position, utilized only on days of hunter check in and hunting check out, assures that the checking in process is smooth and timely, that correct stand-by hunters are accommodated, and that harvest data is collected.

Accomplishment: A combined total of 2,857 hunters were processed in a timely manner through the five step check in process, avoiding anger and anxiety, stand-by hunters were accommodated, and harvest data collected as hunters checked out during the Axis deer and Mouflon sheep hunts on Lanai. Expenditure: \$4,058.

#### Temporary - Full Time Wildlife Assistant - Maui (Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii)

Objective: To continue to maintain a temporary full time position originally funded via NAPPs monies as part of the management scheme for the East Maui Watershed Partnership.

Accomplishment: This position was utilized primarily in the East Maui Watershed Partnership area to assist in the hunter access program, maintenance of the access road system, signage replacement, transect monitoring, gathering and collating hunter harvest data. Half of this position was funded via WRF. (This position was occupied for the first month of the fiscal year, and for a short period at the end of the year with a new hire in the position) Expenditure: \$2,814.

#### Game Operations and Maintenance

Objective: To fund unanticipated costs within the district to maintain hunter accesses and equipment necessary for the continued operation of game facilities. Expenditure: \$4,434.

#### Commissions on Hunting License Sales

WRF monies were used to pay the commission to vendors for the sales of the 2001-2002 Hawaii hunting licenses. Expenditures: \$6,232

Total WRF expenditures for Maui County were: \$52,639

#### Future Program Plans

1. Fund land rental on Lanai- \$35,000 (100% WRF)
2. Fund land rental on Maui- \$2,600 (25% WRF)
3. Fund Lanai Check Station overtime for Wildlife Management Assistant V position-\$2,500 (100% WRF)
4. Fund General Laborer I position for Lanai Check Station work- \$12,000 (100% WRF)
5. Fund General Laborer I position on Lanai for facility upkeep and field maintenance-\$16,600 (100% WRF)
6. Fund game mammal facilities development and Operating & Maintenance on Lanai- \$10,000 (100% WRF)
7. Fund game mammal surveys on Lanai -\$8,000 (100% WRF)
8. Fund Koolau Ungulate Monitoring Project- \$24,000 (25% WRF)
9. Fund Repair & Maintenance of Lanai vehicles- \$1,500 (50% WRF)



10. Fund Management of Lottery Hunts for Lanai; document printing, data input and drawings-\$10,000 (100% WRF)

## **EAST HAWAII SEGMENT**

### General Laborer Positions:

The General Laborer II position remained unfilled during the year. Expenditures: 0.00

### Wildlife Habitat Management:

The Nene habitat at Keaau was cleared of dense stands of non-native vegetation. Twenty acres of wetlands were recovered in time for nesting season. Hand-tools and safety equipment were bought for staff and volunteers. Herbicides were purchased and used in the removal of grass and guava thickets in hunting areas. This work involved in-kind matching contributions using volunteer and prison labor, which qualifies for Pittman-Robertson cost sharing.

Expenditures: \$1,311

### Wildlife Operations and Maintenance:

Seven thousand acres of State lands under special permit agreement were improved for bird hunting in cooperation with Kapapala Ranch. Fertilizers and insecticides were used on food crop plantings. Predators were removed by trapping and the use of rodenticides. A vehicle was purchased for wildlife work in replacement of a model 12 years old with 160,000 miles logged. WRF paid for one fourth the cost of the vehicle. A share of the Wildlife programs fuel and oil charges were paid for by WRF. Expenditures: \$7,603

### Commissions on Hunting License Sales:

WRF was used to pay one-half of the commission to vendors on the Island of Hawaii, for sales of the 2001-2002 Hawaii hunting license. Expenditures: \$3,201

Total WRF expenditures charged to East Hawaii were: \$12,115

### Future Program Plans

1. Continue the current level of services such as predator control, urban pig relocations, weed control, avian wildlife salvage and rehabilitation, hunter access enhancement, mapping and posting old and new hunting areas, and other public services.
2. Maintain existing cooperative hunting areas so that other landowners and managers may see advantage to allowing public hunting in their areas.
3. Develop habitat in timber management areas for game birds and mammals to expand hunting opportunities on State lands.
4. Staff will continue to attend hunter safety meetings and assorted hunter focused interest group meetings, to explain wildlife activities and promote wildlife stamp sales to support WRF.

## **WEST HAWAII**

### Equipment Purchase

A portable gas welder was purchased for use in field construction and repairs of wildlife facilities such as gates, fences and etc. Expenditure: \$2,376.32

Attachments for the camera used in remote monitoring of wildlife projects were purchased. Presently, the camera is focused on a new Chukar guzzler in the Puu Nanaha areas on Mauna Kea. Expenditures: \$632.42

Game Facilities Construction.

Poly pipes and attachments were purchased and are being installed in Pohakuloa Training Area (PTA). A mile and a half of pipe has already been installed and is connected to the existing dip tanks in PTA. Eight guzzlers have been attached to the pipeline and is in service.

Expenditures: \$2,438.50

A new guzzler unit was constructed in the Puu Nanaha area of Mauna Kea. One of two 300 gal. water tanks purchased, was installed at this site. The expanded steel grate was used in the construction of a game bird ramp for ingress and egress to the water trough.

Expenditures: \$1,005.40

Game Operations & Maintenance.

Three cable gates were repaired at the entrances of the Puuanahulu GMA and the Puu Waawaa Cooperative GMA (Kaupulehu lava flow area). Expenditures: \$968.74

Game Program Coordination

The computer system was upgraded to assist with the management of the wildlife program, especially with the production of game tags, printing materials and tracking hunt data.

Expenditures: \$2,452.38

### Hunting Season Management

Turkey tags were purchased for the Spring Bearded Turkey season. Expenditures: \$367.00  
Funds were used for the publication of legal notices announcing hunting seasons.

Expenditures: \$535.00

Volunteer incentive awards were purchased as a token of appreciation to volunteers who provide valuable in-kind service hours toward habitat improvement projects. Expenditure: \$426.95

### Temporary Hire of General Laborer I, Clerk Typist II

A full-time (non-civil service) General Laborer I position was filled in the West Hawaii Wildlife Section using WRF. The position was used to renovate and construct new guzzlers in the public hunting areas, operate hunter checking stations, enter game harvest data, conduct wildlife habitat improvement projects, post hunting boundaries, assist in monitoring and capture of wildlife, predator control, and other duties as assigned.

The Division of Forestry and Wildlife is responsible for maintaining the statewide database of hunting licenses which requires someone to manually enter all licenses sold to the public and retrieve data as requested. A Clerk Typist II was hired part-time at the Kamuela office to assist with management of the hunting license data system including data entry, data retrieval and to service the public for hunting license and game tag sales. Expenditures for two positions: \$25,269.66

Total WRF expenditures for West Hawaii: \$36,472.37

### Future Program Plans

1. Install additional high density polyethylene waterlines and troughs in Pohakuloa Training Area, Puuanahulu GMA and Puu Waawaa Cooperative GMA
2. Continue experimental plantings within burned areas of Puuanahulu GMA to improve game habitat.
3. Monitor feral sheep movements with radio telemetry equipment in Puuanahulu/Puu Waawaa GMAs.
4. Monitor hen turkeys to determine nesting success, preferred brood rearing habitat and annual recruitment using radio telemetry equipment in Mauna Kea/Kaohe GMAs.
5. Install guzzlers in Puuanahulu GMA.

## **HONOLULU STAFF**

### Hunters Forum.

Two hunter forums were held during the year, to provide better communication and coordination between DLNR and the hunting community on public hunting program issues and initiatives. The forums brought representatives of the hunting community and the Department together to discuss game management program issues, problems, and solutions. Organization and facilitation of the hunter forums was contracted out to the Hawaii Hunters Advisory Council. Expenditures: \$6,148

### Hunting License and Wildlife Stamp Program Sales and Management.

A portion of the production costs for the FY03 Hawaii hunting license and wildlife stamp – Chukar pheasant were paid from the WRF. These included printing costs and shipping of new

licenses and stamps. Expenditures: \$4,416.

Temporary clerical staff was hired during the month of July to help with over-the-counter hunting license sales. Expenditures: \$740

#### Computer Equipment Upgrades.

New computer equipment and software were purchased with a portion paid from WRF. An automated web-based information system has been established on the web, to respond to inquiries about hunting in Hawaii and to channel inquiries to the correct person.

Expenditures: \$1,890

The WRF expenditures and encumbrances for Honolulu Staff Office amounted to \$13,194.

#### Future Program Plans

1. Purchase contract services to hold 2 hunter forums. Estimated Cost: \$10,000
2. Publish notification of hunting season openings and changes. Estimated cost: \$1,000.
3. Produce the wildlife conservation stamp. Estimated Cost: \$5,000
4. Publish copies of revised regulations and hunter information. \$5,000

## **HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM**

#### Hunter Education Program - Kamuela Office

Objective: To support the Hunter Education Program on the Big Island.

Accomplishment: WRF provided a portion of the state match for the federally funded salary of the Hunter Education Program Specialists at Kamuela. The Hunter Education Program Specialists provides program coordination and direction of volunteer instructors for the hunter education program on Hawaii. The position is partially funded under WRF at an expense of \$11,660. No transfer of these funds occurred as of June 30, 2002.

#### Future Program Plans

1. Provide funding support for the Hunter Education Program on the Big Island. Estimated Cost: \$11,660.